

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 12-14, 16-18 and 32 are allowed and that claims 15 and 33 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the Examiner's formal rejection.

With reference to claim 12, the Examiner noted that "pivotal attachment" could not be found in the specification. It is noted that this term appeared in original claim 1. However, to advance prosecution and provide clear antecedent basis, claim 12 has been amended to refer to "pivot mount on" the base, consistent with line 2 of claim 12 and with the as-filed specification at page 6, lines 1-2. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested.

The Examiner objected to claim 14 with reference to "the pivot". It is believed that the Examiner intended to refer to claim 15, because claim 14 does not include the term "the pivot". With regard to claims 15 and 33, these claims have been revised as suggested by the Examiner to change "the pivot" to --a pivot--. Claim 15 has also been revised to change "the length" to --a length--. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 14, 15 and 33 is solicited.

Claims 15 and 33 were rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. In view of the Examiner's rejection, claim 15 has been amended to refer to "hulls" of the base. It is noted in this regard that claim 15 depends from claim 14 which provides that the base comprises a catamaran vessel. As is well known, a catamaran vessel has two hulls. Because the hulls were not specifically mentioned in claim 14, however, claim 15 was amended to delete the term "the". With regard to claim 33, the dependency of claim 33 has been corrected to refer to claim 32. With regard to the antecedent basis issue, claim 33 has been amended to simply refer to a side wall located at each end of

the base and that the pivot is located on a longitudinal axis of the base, as understood from as-filed page 6 of the specification, paragraph 1, and the accompanying drawings.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection of claims 15 and 33 is solicited.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance and an early notice to that effect is solicited.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By: 

Michelle N. Lester
Reg. No. 32,331

MNL:slj
901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100